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# The Signal



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## News UPDATE

### CGSC/ILE graduation

The Command and General Staff College/Intermediate Level Education program will hold its graduation exercise 10 a.m., **June 15** in Alexander Hall.

For information, call (706) 791-5540.

### Vehicle safety day

Fort Gordon will hold a Vehicle Safety Day 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., **Wednesday** in Freedom Park.

Information booths and displays will be set up to show safe use of boating, auto and motorcycle vehicles, to increase awareness prior to the Memorial Day holiday weekend. There will be demonstrations by Military Police, Corps of Engineers (boating safety) and the Freedom Riderz Motorcycle Club.

For information call (706) 791-4643.

### EO seminar

An equal opportunity executive seminar will be held 9 - 11 a.m., **June 21** in Alexander Hall.

Commanders, directors, supervisors, command sergeants major and first sergeants are required to attend.

The training is mandatory in compliance with Army Regulation 600-20, Chapter 6.

For additional information call (706) 791-2014.

### Bouchard farewell

Fort Gordon and the Signal Center will say farewell to Brig. Gen. Ronald Bouchard, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon deputy commanding general, at 4:30 p.m., **June 1** at the Signal Towers Flagpole.

The ceremony will be followed by the 5 p.m. retreat and lowering of the national flag.

Bouchard has been the deputy commanding general since August 2005. He will take over as chief of staff of the Defense Information Systems Agency, the Pentagon agency responsible for global net-centric solutions for the nation's leaders and the warfighters all over the world.

For information call (706) 791-4717

### AFCEA tournament

Augusta-Fort Gordon Chapter, AFCEA, will hold the Second Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament at 12:30 p.m., **June 15** at Gordon Lakes Golf Courses.

For information, call (706) 495-9960 or (706) 631-4114.

## New post housing getting high efficiency geothermal energy

Charmain Z. Brackett  
*Correspondent*

While working as a private contractor, Bart Shipley installed a lot of geothermal heating and air conditioning units. "Most of the homes with geothermal units were in the \$3 million to \$9 million range," said Shipley, who is the project superintendent with Trison Construction Inc., out of Oklahoma.

The company is installing geothermal heating and air conditioning units in all the new housing construction at Fort Gordon.

A geothermal heating and air conditioning system utilizes the constant temperature maintained within the earth's crust to heat and cool a home. In the homes on post, the geothermal technology will be used for the water heater as well.

Upfront costs of a geothermal system are about 50 percent higher than conventional heating and air conditioning units; however, there are long term financial benefits as well as environmental benefits to be gained from using the system, said Shipley.

"The beauty of the system is the return on the investment," he said.

The average life of a conventional heating and air conditioning system is about 15 years; while the average life span of a geothermal system is 25 years, he said.

Not only does the system not have to be replaced as often, it uses less energy than a standard system.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, geothermal heat pumps can use up to 72 percent less energy than some standard systems.

Immediate results of the system are lower electric bills. When energy efficient appliances are used, that compounds the cost savings.

By not using fossil fuels or other non-renewable sources, the system causes less harm to the environment.

Also, the geothermal units are extremely quiet.

Those living in the homes won't notice any difference between their system and a standard one.

The actually unit is outside the home hidden inside an outdoor storage area. The thermostat looks like most with a heating or cooling switch and temperature selector.

Harry Bloomer with GMH, the company overseeing military housing at Fort Gordon,

said the use of geothermal energy is only one of the ways that his company is working to reduce energy costs.

All of the new housing units on post have energy ef-

ficient appliances, he said.

"All are outfitted with fluorescent lighting" as well, he said.

Bloomer said that his company is considering the effec-

tiveness of converting existing homes to use the geothermal system.

Such a change would not be immediate if it is deemed appropriate.



Photo by Charmain Z. Brackett

**Bart Shipley with Trison Construction, points to a line connecting the geothermal heating and air conditioning unit and the water heater in a new home in Maglin Terrace. All new construction at Fort Gordon will have geothermal systems.**

## Asian/Pacific American heritage comes to life

Bonnie Heater

*Signal staff*

Fort Gordon service members paid tribute to past and present Asian/Pacific Americans with a command program May 10 in Alexander Hall. Hosted by the 35th Signal Brigade, the theme for observance was "Pursuing Excellence through Leadership, Diversity, and Unity."

As guests were taking their seats a slide show of

"Who Am I?" was presented. Among the Asian/Pacific Americans featured were Jerry Yang, ranked 317 among the World Richest People in 2006 by *Forbes* magazine and co-founder of Yahoo; Chris Chan Lee, an Asian American filmmaker who produced the film "Undoing;" and retired Gen. Eric Ken Shinseki, who served as the 34th Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army and the first Asian American four-star general in U.S. history.

Following the slide presentation, the U.S. Army

434th Signal Corps Band played assorted prelude music and the National Anthem. Chaplain (Maj.) Gary Williams, assigned to the 35th Signal Brigade, gave the invocation. Master Dale Simmons, a fourth degree Sa Dan instructor, along with three of his students: Omer Bahkiet, Melissa Nance, and Christine Simmons, a Cho Dan first degree black belt, gave a karate demonstration. Col. Mark Calvo, 35th Signal Brigade deputy commander, gave opening remarks and introduced the guest speaker, David Furukawa.

Dressed in a World War I U.S. Army uniform and with the aid of stage make up, Furukawa, a fourth generation Japanese American, portrayed Sgt. Maj. Tokutaro Slocum, a Japanese American Soldier who served in World War I. Throughout the enactment faces of Asian/Pacific Americans who had served in the military and were recipients of the Medal of Honor were shown on a screen behind Furukawa as he took on Slocum's character.

"I returned from the world war with a distinguished record of military service that most American men would have embraced with pride," said Slocum. "Being a native of Japan, I could have claimed exemption from military service, but I chose to enlist in the army at my adopted hometown of Minot, N.D. I served in the 328th Infantry, part of the 82nd, or All-American Division made famous by Sgt. Alvin York."

York was awarded the Medal of Honor for leading an attack on a German machine gun nest, killing 20 German soldiers and capturing 132 others, according to Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

"I was involved in the legendary battles of Meuse-Argonne and St. Mihiel and, like many other World War I Soldiers, suffered throughout my life from being gassed," said Slocum. "I returned home to continue my study of law at Columbia University, but I first wanted to fill my lifelong wish to become an American citizen."

"Two of my friends from Minot, acting as my witnesses, appeared with me at the office of Robert Coleman, the chief examiner of naturalization at St. Paul, Minn., January 1921, explained Slocum. "That [sic] where I applied for citizenship under the Act of May 9, 1918, which offered naturalization to any alien who had served in the armed forces during the war."

"At the time Coleman conceded that I had "an excellent character and an excellent army record," then he told me that the Bureau of Naturalization believed me to be ineligible for citizenship under Section 2169 of the Revised Statutes, which limited naturalization to those who were "white" or of African descent," added Slocum.

See Asian/Pacific, page 4

## Taxicab service changes coming

Charmain Z. Brackett  
*Correspondent*

Some changes in taxicab service at Fort Gordon could be in place in the next few months.

"We are in the process of contacting the owners and lease operators about having a contract," said Keith Hazelrigs, chief of lodging with the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Complaints about taxi service are many and include overcharging customers, sexual harassment of female passengers and not showing up when called.

Hazelrigs said these are the same complaints that the civilian world has about taxis, but in the military, there are channels to vent complaints.

The goal of the contracting process is to work directly with cab drivers rather than cab companies.

"Hopefully, we will get individuals on contract. In-

dividuals are a little more customer friendly because their livelihood depends on customer service," he said.

While Fort Gordon is able to suspend drivers working for cab companies and is able to take other disciplinary actions, the companies they work for have not been responsive to complaints, he said.

The idea came from a similar program that Fort Benning has been using for about a year. Hazelrigs said it has received a lot of positive response.

Hazelrigs said a meeting was scheduled for Wednesday to provide drivers with information packets.

Once the packets are turned in and all the necessary information is there, the information will be forwarded to Fort Campbell, Ky., where the contracting department will create the contracts.

He said he expects the process to be complete around July 1.



Photo by Bonnie Heater

**During the Asian/Pacific American Heritage command observance May 10, David Furukawa, a fourth generation Japanese American, portrays Sgt. Maj. Tokutaro Slocum, a Japanese American Soldier who served in World War I.**



# Grant extends Science Center reach

A recent Cisco Systems grant will enable students across the country to better access a range of educational material at the National Science Center and in its mobile vans.

Through the grant announced May 11 by the National Science Center, Cisco continues to strengthen its relationship with the NSC, a national education outreach organization with headquarters in Augusta.

“The Army and our Nation appreciate CISCO’s contribution,” said Lt. Gen. Steven W. Boutelle, Chief Information Officer/G-6 of the Army. “The combined efforts of industry, the Army, and NSC, Inc. allow us to provide technology-rich education programs to help motivate our youth.”

Rob Dennis, the National Science Center’s chief executive officer sees the contribution as a remarkable opportunity for the NSC. “We will

now be able to not only sustain but grow our Distance Learning and Professional Development programs to teachers and students, nationally and internationally.”

“Giving back is a core tenet of Cisco’s culture,” said Brad Boston, senior vice president of Cisco’s Global Government Solutions Group. “Through Cisco’s corporate philanthropy efforts, we strive to mobilize the power of the Internet to positively affect underserved communities and individuals. The NSC’s Fort Discovery and mobile classrooms will help foster the love of science and technology in today’s schoolchildren, which is key to the future success of our nation.”

Cisco’s grant will build on and advance the NSC’s existing network infrastructure to a fully converged IP-based wireless network, providing a full range of voice, data, video

and service support capabilities throughout the Augusta headquarters facility. It is a complete interactive educational facility with over 250 hands-on science and technology exhibits, a state-of-the-art digital theater, three computer laboratories, two distance-learning facilities, a 100-seat demonstration lab, and multiple classrooms. NSC’s two Mobile Discovery Center vans will also be upgraded with a similar IP-based capability, linking their mobile classrooms back to the headquarters as they travel to schools throughout the United States doing hands-on, interactive science demonstrations. Through scheduled stops between September and June, the two 18 wheelers bring the NSC to urban and rural school students just about anywhere in the continental U.S. Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians from the Accessions Command in Fort Knox, KY,

who have been trained by the NSC-Army team to be demonstrators, staff the vans.

The National Science Center currently serves over 130,000 students and teachers annually. Current program offerings for grades K-12 include such topics as electricity, magnetism, sound, nitrogen, and health.

Cisco’s involvement with the NSC dates back to an earlier grant in 2004.

The NSC, established by an Act of Congress is a unique three-way partnership between the United States Army, National Science Center Incorporated, and industry/private citizens. The headquarters of the NSC is Fort Discovery, located on the Riverwalk by the Savannah River in Augusta. Fort Discovery is a family-oriented math and science center as well as the home-base for the center’s national educational outreach programs.

# Dental Activity graduation planned

The U.S. Army Dental Activity Advanced Dental Education Training Program will hold graduation exercises 9:30 a.m. June 11 in Alexander Hall.

Twelve officers have successfully completed programs of study.

Graduates include Maj. Erich Heitman, Capt. Chad Dawson, Capt. Garth Hatch and Capt. David Olson in endodontic two-year residency program. Capt. Kristopher Hart completes the oral maxillofacial surgery four year residency program. Capt. Timothy Carter, Capt. Jill Sanders and Capt. Keitra Wilson complete the periodontic three year residency program.

Maj. Randy Muccioli, Capt. Max Molgard, Capt. Jerrod Sanders and Capt. Gyula Takacs complete the prosthodontic three year residency program.

Fort Gordon is recognized as the Army’s premier teaching dental specialties site. The Fort Gordon Dental Activity sponsors four fully-accredited Graduate Dental programs under the supervision of an experienced board-certified faculty. Three of the programs are located at Tingay Dental Clinic and one within

the Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center. The first dental program began in 1974 with a one-year of training program in general dentistry, but it has since been closed with the arrival of other programs. Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Training began in 1979, Endodontic and Periodontic Training arrived in 1982, and Prosthodontic Training started in 1988. In addition to their extensive learning opportunities, the dental residents, as well as faculty, are involved in wide-ranging research endeavors resulting in numerous and noteworthy publications in the major dental and research journals.

The Fort Gordon Dental Activity has dental care responsibilities throughout the Southeast region and increasingly seeks to integrate resources and services with the Medical College of Georgia and Veterans Affairs dental communities. Through these and other sharing initiatives, the staff and faculty continue to strive for teaching excellence and to instill their residents with the ideals of their calling: knowledge, skill, dedication, and compassion. The efforts of the graduates will reach far beyond Fort Gordon to provide dental care to the Army for years to come.

# Free Family-friendly concerts around town

**Charmain Z. Brackett**  
*Correspondent*

During the late spring, it’s easy to find some type of concert in a park in the Augusta area, and many of them are free. On any given week in the spring and early summer, a wide variety of styles can be heard at the different concerts.

The Evenings in the Appleby Garden series begins on Tuesday.

In its 53rd season, the concert series is located behind the Appleby Branch of the Augusta public library at Johns Road and Walton Way. Concerts begin at 8 p.m.

The season kicks off with the Garden City Brass Quintet of the Signal Corps Band.

The concert is free. For more information, call (706) 821-2600.

In Aiken, the Hopelands Summer Concert Series features the most concerts over the span of three months.

On Monday, the Carolina String Academy will play beginning at 7 p.m. in the gardens off Whiskey Road in Aiken.

The concert is free. For

more information, call (803) 642-7631.

Thursdays are concert days at North Augusta’s Maude Edenfield Park.

Savannah River Winds will play in a free concert beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday.

The park is located next to the North Augusta Community Center at 495 Brookside Dr. In the event of rain, the concert

moves into the community center.

For more information, call (803) 442-7588 or visit [www.naartscouncil.org](http://www.naartscouncil.org).

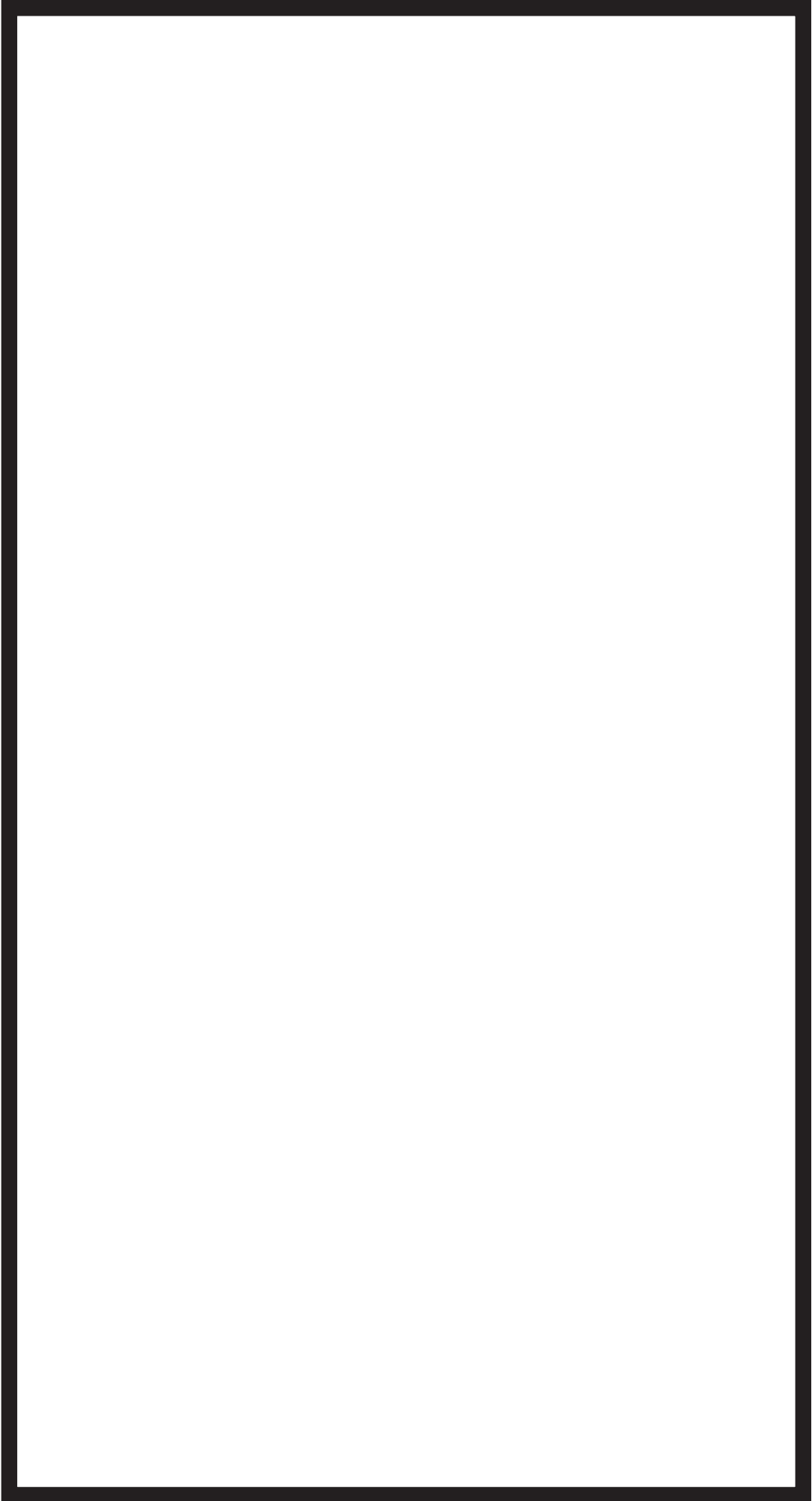
Jazz lovers can always find a jazz concert rain or shine on Sundays at Augusta’s Riverwalk.

The band SOMA will be in concert this Sunday beginning at 8 p.m.

Concerts are \$6. For more information, visit [www.gardencityjazz.com](http://www.gardencityjazz.com).

**As part of the Appleby Concert Series, the Brass Quintet of the Signal Corps Band will perform 8 to 9 p.m., Tuesday. The concert will take place in the gardens behind the Appleby Branch Library located at 2260 Walton Way, Augusta. The concert is free and open to the public.**

**Columbia County’s Ballet Company is offering a free performance, “Life’s a dance” a dance journey, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the new Amphitheatre behind the library, 639 Fury’s Ferry Rd., Martinez.**



# Blood donations needed

Charmain Z. Brackett  
Correspondent

Erin Hawkins spent a lot of last week on the phone trying to contact people with type AB blood and schedule a blood donation appointment.

“AB is the universal plasma donor,” said Hawkins, blood donor recruiter at Kendrick Memorial Blood Center. Unfortunately, the AB population is minute.

“Only three percent is AB,” said Capt. Warren Brown, the officer in charge at the blood center, which is the Army’s leading blood collecting facility.

In trauma situations, plasma can be used more effectively than whole blood.

## Majority of blood collected shipped overseas to Iraq and Afghanistan

Plasma has more clotting factor, Brown said, and when a patient is bleeding a lot because of a traumatic wound, clotting factor is vital.

Whole blood has a refrigerated shelf life of only 42 days while plasma can be frozen and used within a year.

As the war continues, so does the need for blood for troops. A majority of the blood collected at Kendrick and by its staff is shipped

overseas to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Brown said that the facility’s quotas for blood collection have been raised. Brown and the blood center staff have had to travel further distances to collect blood.

The government cannot collect blood on non-government property, said Hawkins.

While anyone wishing to donate blood can travel to Fort Gordon, Kendrick can’t set up a blood drive at a nearby church

or shopping center, she said.

Recent blood drives have been conducted as far away as Alabama with the University of Alabama ROTC program and Athens, Ga. with the University of Georgia ROTC. Other blood drives have been held at Robins Air Force Base, Warner Robins, Ga. and at The Citadel in Charleston, S.C.

Kendrick Memorial Blood Center, located near the corner of 27th Street and Barnes Avenue in Building 25712, is open from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for walk-ins. Appointments may be made by calling (706) 787-1014 or online at [www.militaryblood.dod.mil](http://www.militaryblood.dod.mil).

# Safe neighborhoods high priority

Nick Roberson  
GMH Military Housing

When GMH Military Housing acquired Fort Gordon’s Family housing last year, it was with the belief that its resident’s safety and well-being come first. Because of this concern, GMH partnered with Fort Gordon’s public safety office to make sure that its residents continue to benefit from the various public safety services offered. One of these services is the constant presence of the Fort Gordon Military Police within the Family housing neighborhoods.

Many times residents are unaware that they are disturbing their neighbors. Usually they desist with the unwanted behavior when told. This is why GMH encourages residents to get to know their neighbors.

When there is a problem or concern, neighbors can first communicate with each other instead of calling the Gordon Terrace MP substation or Provost Marshal Sergeant Desk. Family housing residents who do not feel comfortable with having direct communication with their neighbors for repeat complaints and concerns, may submit written complaints to the GMH office staff at the GMH community management office. GMH cares about its residents concerns and depending on the urgency of the complaint, they are investigated in accordance with governing rules and applicable laws within 48 hours.

Officers Frank Lee and Margaret Simpson are two full time certified safety officers who are on duty Monday through Friday patrolling the Family housing neighborhoods. They are usually seen within the neighborhoods on bike patrol or at the intersection of Gordon Terrace directing traffic so that children and parents can safely travel to and from school.

Additionally, for residents’ added convenience and peace of mind, there is a neighborhood military police substation located

at 1905A Brainard Ave. in Gordon Terrace. Currently, substation hours are 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Beginning June 4 through the end of August 2007, the substation hours will change to 2 – 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Once Richmond County School System resumes, the hours and days for the Gordon Terrace substation will return to the current schedule. This change is a result of Family housing residents requesting GMH provide police presence during the evening hours when youth are out of school when there is more outside play and activities going on in the neighborhoods.

Lee and Simpson recommend that residents adhere to the following simple rules when contacting the Fort Gordon Military Police:

·Non-emergency situations such as loud music, speeding, and basic animal control can be handled by calling the Gordon Terrace MP substation at (706) 798-7589.

·Urgent situations that are not deemed as immediate emergencies, such as aggressive animals roaming neighborhoods, can be handled by calling the Fort Gordon Provost Marshal Sergeant Desk at (706) 791-4580.

·All emergency situations that cause immediate threats and danger should be handled by calling 911 (Please remember that 911 calls made from Fort Gordon landlines are automatically answered by the Fort Gordon emergency dispatcher and 911 calls made from cell phones located on Fort Gordon are answered by Richmond County emergency dispatchers and then redirected to Fort Gordon emergency dispatchers). Examples for calling 911 are animal attacks, fighting, gunfire, etc.

For more information about Family housing at Fort Gordon, visit the GMH community management office located at 771D Pecan Court, Fort Gordon, log onto the website at [www.ftgordonfamilyhousing.com](http://www.ftgordonfamilyhousing.com) or call the community management office at (706) 772-7041/7042.



**Question:**  
How do I find out about construction, renovations and activities and events in my neighborhood?

**Answer:**  
There are various ways that GMH Military Housing keeps its residents up-to-date with information about their neighborhoods. A quarterly newsletter “The Homefront” is published; quarterly neighborhood huddles (informal outside meetings) are held; weekly articles are printed in the Signal newspaper; flyers are printed and posted; and the GMH website [www.ftgordonfamilyhousing.com](http://www.ftgordonfamilyhousing.com) furnishes information. Additionally, residents may contact the GMH community management office at (706) 772-7041/7042.



GMH Military Housing Management, LLC. is a proud partner with the Residential Communities Initiative at Fort Gordon.





# Grilling season demands extra caution

With temperatures on the rise, culinary enthusiasts and basic backyard cooks emerge with spatulas in hand ready to greet outdoor grilling season. The National Fire Protection Association recently recom-

mended that safety be considered when grilling to avoid fires, injuries and property damage.

Each year, gas-fueled and charcoal grills are involved in thousands of home structure

fires and home outdoor fires, according to NFPA. Gas-fueled grills present a higher fire risk than charcoal grills. Nearly half of home outdoor gas grill fires and almost one-third of home gas grill structure fires are due

to leaks and breaks in the equipment. The two leading causes for charcoal grill home structure fires are combustible materials, including the home itself, that are too close to the grill, and unattended cooking. Selecting a safe location outside the home for grilling is important. Almost half of all home structure charcoal grill fires and one-third of the gas grill fires began on an exterior balcony or unenclosed porch.

### NFPA SUGGESTS SAFETY TIPS FOR OUTDOOR GRILLING

Gas and charcoal BBQ grills must only be used outdoors. If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces, such as tents, they pose both a fire hazard and the risk of exposing occupants to toxic gases and potential asphyxiation.

Position the grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

Place the grill a safe distance from lawn games, play areas and foot traffic.

Keep children and pets away from the grill area: declare a

three-foot “kid-free zone” around the grill.

Put out several long-handled grilling tools to give the chef plenty of clearance from heat and flames when flipping burgers.

Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in trays below

charcoal starter fluid to get the fire going.

### GAS GRILLS

Check the gas cylinder hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. A light soap and water solution applied to the hose will quickly reveal escaping propane by releasing bubbles. If you determine your

grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame:

Turn off the gas tank and grill.

If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again.

If the leak does not stop, call the fire department.

If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not attempt to move the grill.

Use only equipment bearing the mark of an independent testing laboratory. Follow the manufacturers’ instructions on how to set up the grill and maintain it.

Never store propane gas cylinders in buildings or garages. If you store a gas grill inside during the winter, disconnect the cylinder and leave it outside.



## Asian/Pacific

from page 1

“I could not help myself, I just burst into tears.

“I know what you mean; you mean that I am yellow,” said Slocum to Coleman. “I may be yellow in face, but I am not yellow at heart.”

After experiencing a few moments of lapse of memory due to his advanced age Slocum thanked the military for their service and left the stage with an escort.

Furukawa reappeared in costume once again and received a gift from the Signal Command and the 35th Signal Brigade. This was followed by a question and answer session with Furukawa and food sampling of Asian/Pacific dishes. Furukawa, a physician assistant in the Department of Ophthalmology at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Ga., explained Slocum eventually earned his American citizen with the assistance of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars organizations.

In 1978, a joint congressional resolution established Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. The first 10 days of May were selected to coincide with two important milestones in Asian/Pacific American history: the arrival in the United States of the first Japanese immigrants on May 7, 1843 and contributions of Chinese workers to the building of the transcontinental railroad, completed on May 10, 1869.

In 1992, Congress expanded the 10-day observance to a month-long celebration. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Asians and Pacific Islanders made up the fastest growing racial group in the United States, numbering more than 10 million people, or nearly 4 percent of the total population. The diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander American population includes members of more than 30 ethnic groups who speak more than 300 languages and dialects.



# Viewpoint

INFORMATION, OPINIONS AND COMMENTARY

## Protecting yourself from sexual assaults

Elaine Wilson  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

**FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas** - It was Friday night and, as usual, a tight-knit group of girls met outside of their college dorm to make plans. They were headed to a fraternity party, but decided last minute to meet up with some guys one of the girls knew from high school.

The girl, "Sue," had a crush on one of the guys, so she'd talked her buddies into going to their apartment. So, with stiff 1980s Aquanetted hair and too-low-cut tops, the freshmen walked the mile to the apartment, giggling all the way.

The men were, of course, thrilled to have the college girls over. They turned on the radio and popped the tops off of some beers and the group drank, laughed and flirted. Now slightly buzzed, Sue drifted off with her crush into a bedroom.

It got hot and heavy, she later said. They made out for a while and then, when Sue felt like it was getting too hot, she decided to leave the room and hang with her friends.

He, on the other hand, had different plans. He pinned her down, fondled her and tried to rape her. She said no and he ignored her. She fought him and ran out into the hall crying.

The girls left, but Sue didn't say much on the walk home. "You shouldn't have let things get that far," they told her. "It wasn't just his fault."

Although he didn't rape her, the incident scarred her. Her self-esteem dipped and her friends' words haunted her for years. Maybe I should have dressed differently or shouldn't have led him on, she thought. Maybe it was my fault?

She was wrong. It had nothing to do with the way she dressed or the amount of kissing she did. The man she was with sexually assaulted her. But like thousands of other victims, Sue blamed herself. And the man walked away.

Women are taught to avoid dark alleys and dimly lit parking lots to avoid "stranger danger." But they're not taught to avoid the offenders that may be a friend, boyfriend or even a relative. Rape by a stranger can happen, but it's much more likely to be a date or acquaintance. According to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, about two-thirds of sexual assault victims in the United States knew their assailants.

And, it is predicted that one in seven college women will be raped before graduation, and 90 percent will know their attacker, according to the University of Texas at Austin Counseling and Mental Health Center Web site.

Sexual assault is intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent, according to the U.S. Army Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Web site. The term includes rape; nonconsensual sodomy, whether oral or anal sex; indecent assault, which is unwanted and inappropriate sexual contact or fondling; or attempts to commit these acts.

Bottom line for potential offenders is "no" means "no," whether the victim is making out with them, had sex with them in the past or is dressed provocatively.

While sexual assault can't always be avoided, there are steps you can take to prevent from becoming a victim. The Army's SAPR Program Web site recommends people be assertive; be prepared, travel with a friend and stay sober; and be alert, if you sense trouble, get to a safe place as soon as possible.

According to the Acting Secretary of the Army's Task Force

Report on Sexual Assault Policies, from 1999 to 2004, 67 percent of the sexual assaults involving Army personnel occurred on post. Call the police if you see any unauthorized or suspicious males or females in the barracks.

Sexual assault is a criminal offense punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice as well as the federal and civilian legal systems. It is also the most under reported crime in society and in the military, according to the Army SAPR Program Web site. If that trend continues, offenders will never be brought to justice. And, they will find another victim.

Nearly 20 years ago, that victim was me. I am "Sue." I have gotten past the shame of that night, but I'll never get over the fact that I just walked away shouldering the blame for someone else. I knew dozens of girls in college who had been date raped or forced to do a sexual act against their will. But, in many cases, the blame was misplaced on the victim for putting herself in a bad position or dressing a certain way. If you know someone who has been sexually assaulted, be a friend. Encourage her (or him) to report the crime and seek help. In the military,

servicemembers have restricted and unrestricted reporting options. With restricted reporting, victims can seek help without launching an investigative process.

If the victim was you, remember: you are not to blame even if you were drinking or you were with someone you know. Seek help so you can start the healing process.

For more information, visit the SAPR Program Web site at [www.sexualassault.army.mil](http://www.sexualassault.army.mil) or call the National Sexual Assault Hotline at (800) 656-HOPE.



## Feedback...

By Bonnie Heater

### What is the significance of Armed Forces Day?



It's a time civilians come together to show their appreciation to the military for what we do to protect the country.

Pvt. LaPrince Colter  
Co. B,  
447th Signal Battalion



It's really nice to have this day of appreciation because where I come from, which is California, not everyone appreciates us.

Pvt. Richard Cash  
Co. B,  
369th Signal Battalion



It's nice to have citizens show their appreciation for our service when we freely join during a time of war to protect our country.

Pvt. Aaron Loftis  
Co. B,  
447th Signal Battalion



It's a good thing that a day is set aside to honor the military.

Pfc. Andis Farris  
Co. B,  
447th Signal Battalion



I think it makes Soldiers feel appreciated for taking their time and risking their lives to help people.

Pfc. Amber Cobb  
Co. B,  
447th Signal Battalion



It gives us peace of mind that our citizens, friends and Family back us up with moral support.

Pvt. David Parr  
Co. B,  
369th Signal Battalion

### Ricky's Tour

by Mike Jones

#### "Chains"



## The Signal

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# Chaplain finds his place in America

**Jorge Gomez**  
*Army News Service*

**FORT LEE, Va.** - When Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel Oh first heard about the Virginia Tech shootings he was disturbed. Then he felt shame to learn that the gunman was Korean.

"I think it's because Korean culture is collective," said the Army Logistics Management College chaplain. "When one person spoils water, we all hurt, we all feel ashamed."

Unlike American individualism where one is able to disassociate oneself from others, Koreans collectively feel guilt as if a member of their own family disgraced them, Chaplain Oh said.

He attributes this strong sense of group cohesion to the Confucian virtue of placing the community before the individual.

From an early age, most Koreans are taught to live up to their family's values.

That may also be true for some American families, but Chaplain Oh emphasized that for Koreans, the concept of family goes beyond blood ties to include all Korean people as a nation.

The U.S. Army as an organization also adheres to similar values, and Chaplain Oh commends the Army for placing others before one's self.

"When we hear about Soldiers who do shameful things, we all feel embarrassed about it," Chaplain Oh said. "There's a sense of belonging to a community."

The Army community comprises members with various cultural backgrounds, and Chaplain Oh said he has come

a long way in embracing this reality. When he came to the United States from Korea at age 18, he said he wasn't prepared for its diversity.

"In Korea everybody is Korean, you don't see any other people from other countries, but in the United States, especially in San Jose (Calif.), I was shocked to find that there were not only whites, but blacks, Hispanics, Arabs and others," Chaplain Oh said.

"There were all kinds of people living together, and I was amazed. I thought, if that's the case, then maybe I can be a part of this diverse culture."

It wasn't easy, and Chaplain Oh said he went through an identity crisis. He became a U.S. citizen in 1985 and began to feel American. But other Americans saw him as Korean, and Koreans in Korea saw him as American.

"Koreans thought it was really odd for a Korean man to be wearing a U.S. Army uniform," he said. "For them I was part of America, but from the American side, I was obviously Korean, so then I asked myself, 'Who am I? Am I Korean? Or am I American?'"

Chaplain Oh eventually concluded that he was a Korean American. By reflecting on the wisdom of the United States motto, "E Pluribus Unum,"



Photo by Jorge Gomez

**Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel Oh moved to America from Korea at age 18. Though he said he wasn't prepared for America's diversity, the Army has helped him find his unique place in American culture.**

which means, "out of many, one," Chaplain Oh recognized his role in a nation of immigrants.

The talents and gifts he possesses now as chaplain have been shaped by his life, not as a Korean, nor as an American, but as a Korean American, he said.

"I bring this unique background into American culture," he said.

At the same time, Chaplain Oh said he feels especially American because he serves in the Army. If he were just a civilian minister, he said he would probably pastor a Korean American church, "but in this (Army) environment, I deal with all kinds of ethnic backgrounds, so I feel more American

because I'm serving diverse Americans."

In fact, Chaplain Oh said one of the reasons he became an Army chaplain is because he wanted to serve others and not be limited to a Korean American community.

His decision to spiritually minister others only came after a lengthy struggle to overcome the fear of speaking English.

As an undergraduate, Chaplain Oh hid himself in the world of engineering where calculations were more important than speaking English.

"For the first 10 years that I was in the United States, I was scared to speak English in public," he said.

"I was afraid of making mistakes or speaking with an accent. But I finally realized, 'So what? Southerners have their own accents, northerners have their own accent, I'm Korean and I speak with a Korean accent.'"

If he were not afraid of speaking English, he said he may have entered the ministry much sooner in life. Now he accepts the fact that he speaks with an accent and isn't afraid to preach in English.

In spite of his accent, Chaplain Oh sees himself as "Americanized" because, to him, that means belonging to a nation colored with diversity.

## New security measure added to 'myPay' system

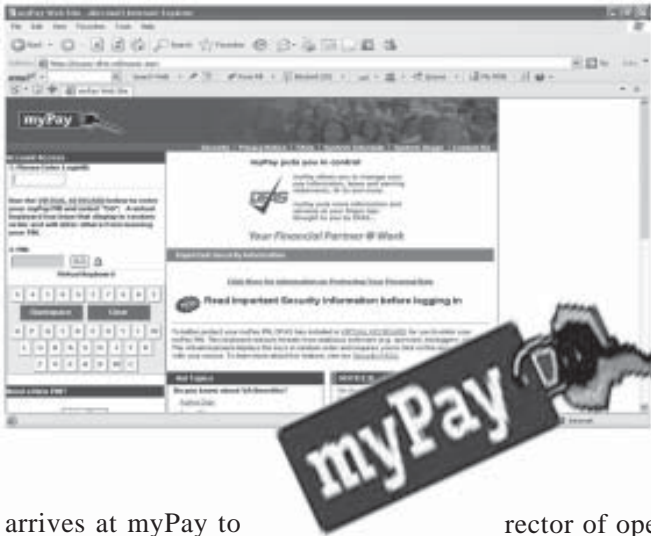
**Defense Finance and Accounting Service**

*Army News Service*

**ARLINGTON, Va.** - Another new security feature has been added to myPay to protect customers' data on the pay account system.

As part of its ongoing effort to strengthen password and account security, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service has implemented the "virtual keyboard" to assist in protecting against such malicious software as spyware, trojans and keylogging.

The virtual keyboard will be available mid-May. Each time a user arrives at myPay to log on, the virtual keyboard will appear on the screen. The user will type in his or her Login ID, then "press" the keys



on the screen by clicking on them with a mouse to enter a Personal Identification Number (PIN) instead of typing the actual keys. The virtual keyboard is for the user's PIN only.

To enhance security, the keyboard layout changes or keys are displayed randomly every time the page is refreshed.

"This is a significant move toward adding yet another layer of security to our myPay system,"

said Pat Shine, DFAS director of operations. "We want to reassure our customers that we are proactively working to secure their pay account information."



If you are interested in giving your time and efforts to any of the following volunteer opportunities in the Central Savannah River Area, contact Linda Means at [meansl@gordon.army.mil](mailto:meansl@gordon.army.mil). Provide your name, rank, organization, work and home telephone numbers. If your class is interested in accepting the cause as a community relations project, provide the complete names and ranks of each volunteer with a designated POC and contact info. For more information, call (706) 791-1871.

### ChampBoat Grand Prix (Formula 1 Boat Race) May 18-20

Interested in having some fun and helping out around super fast 200 MPH boats? Volunteers are needed to assist with venue set-up on May 18th from 12 to 5 p.m. Volunteers are also needed on May 19th from 7 a.m. to 12 and from 12 to 7 p.m. and on May 20th from 8 a.m. to 12 and from 12 to 6 p.m. On these days, volunteers will assist with parking, collecting tickets and working hospitality tents. Event will be held on the Savannah River, 101 Riverfront Drive, Augusta. Dress is casual and comfortable. Specify date and shift you are interested in volunteering on your Email.

### Augusta's Project Serve 2007 May 19

The Boys and Girls Club of Augusta provides after school and summer programs to children in the downtown area of Augusta. For three years running, the CSRA annual United Way Project Serve has supported the Club with volunteer resources from local corporations to complete a multitude of tasks including yard work, tree trimming, parking lot leveling and painting. This year's project involved painting several interior rooms of the facility and is about 85 percent complete. Ten volunteers are needed from 8 a.m. to approximately 3 p.m. to help complete the task. The Boys and Girls Club of Augusta is located at 1903 Division Street, Augusta.

### Child Enrichment's - Sam's Day/Yard Sale May 26

Volunteers are needed to assist this non-profit organization with this fundraiser that will help provide intervention, stabilization, advocacy and prevention to victims of child abuse. Volunteers will help set up and pack up yard sale

items at Sam's located on Bobby Jones Expressway beginning at 7 a.m.

### Special Needs T-Ball

T-Ball for kids with special needs (ages 4 to 18) will meet in Martinez beginning in late May. This volunteer-based program is open to all children in the Central Savannah River Area. Neurotypical friends and siblings are also welcome to join. Dedicated coaching volunteers and assistants are needed. If interested in volunteering or enrolling, call 706-210-9295 or email: [izzziart@yahoo.com](mailto:izzziart@yahoo.com).

### Swamp Soiree June 14

This is the annual fundraiser for the Southeastern Natural Sciences Academy, which is a private 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with the mission to promote environmental stewardship through education, research, and outreach. The goals of the Academy in general are to promote clean water, to protect fresh water habitats, and to serve as a catalyst for community participation in natural resources management. Volunteers are needed at the site of the fundraiser from 4:45 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. to direct traffic and parking. Dress is golf shirts and khaki shorts or pants. Volunteers will be provided water and a catered meal.

### OPERATION HOMEFRONT-GEORGIA

This non-profit organization is dedicated to providing support and service to deployed service member's Families and wounded warriors. In December 2006, Operation Homefront-Georgia provided over \$32,000 in goods and service assistance alone. Volunteers are needed in the Central Savannah River Area. If interested in finding out how you can help, call 1-800-390-2115 or visit [www.operationhomefront.net/georgia](http://www.operationhomefront.net/georgia) fill out an application online.

## Marriage 101

**Chaplain (Maj.) David Cooper**  
*116th Military Intelligence Group*

I had a counseling session recently with a young AIT student who was about to go through a divorce. Rumors of adultery back home had reached him so he hacked into his wife's "My Space" and confirmed the rumors. He also discovered that the child that had been born during their marriage was probably not his. You can imagine the devastation he was experiencing. The saga that he revealed as we talked almost predicted this ending of the marriage. He had become sexually active with this woman after she had become pregnant by someone else. When their very religious mothers discovered the pregnancy and their hook-up, they were forced to marry. They had no pre-marital counseling, no church involvement, and no formal marriage maintenance. Through their passive approach to an already difficult situation they pretty much doomed themselves to failure.

Contrast that with the soon to be wed couple that met with me for their first pre-marital counseling session. The young man had purposefully sought me out and scheduled the counseling even though they would be going home to a different state with a different minister for the wedding. Nobody was requiring any pre-marital work of them. They were driven to understand each other better and to obtain the necessary tools to make their marriage a success. Other factors that predict better chances of a lifetime union are that they are attending church and not living together before the marriage.

It is interesting that modern researchers find the elements of God's plan for marriage are accurate predictors of success and failure. If you are not married yet, consider these guidelines.

-Only date people of similar faith and character as your own.

-Make your faith practice a part of dating.

-Always treat your date as if they may become your husband or wife.

-If you can't see yourself marrying a certain person, don't date him or her.

-Attend church with anyone you are steady dating.

-Meet the parents.

-Don't rob your future mate by having pre-marital sex.

-Take your time for time reveals many hidden things.

Here's a list for folks who are married.

-Date your mate at least once a month. Take turns planning the date.

-Practice your faith as a couple/family.

-Read books or watch DVD's on improving your marriage.

-Attend formal marriage maintenance opportunities.

Marriage is a serious thing to God. He conducted the first marriage ceremony Himself (Genesis 2:19-25) and He hates divorce (Mark 10:1-12). Jesus chose to use the marriage union as a picture of His union with the church, His Bride.

There is a great opportunity for marriage preparation and maintenance coming up. We are sponsoring a Military Marriage Seminar on June 8 and 9. Child care will be provided. It will be Christian in its orientation with principles that cross all faiths. I have sign-up information in my office. Call me at (706) 791-5653. Send e-mail to [David.E.Cooper@US.Army.mil](mailto:David.E.Cooper@US.Army.mil) or come by the Language Center. We'll get you registered.

## Chapel Call

### Collective Protestant Services

#### Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. - Liturgical Service, Bicentennial Chapel

9:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship Service, Friendship Chapel

10:30 a.m. - Eisenhower Army Medical Center Chapel

12:00 a.m. - Faith Gospel Service, Good Shepherd Chapel

11:00 a.m. - Bicentennial Chapel

11:00 a.m. - Friendship Chapel

#### Catholic Services

Daily, Tues - Fri, 11:45 a.m., EAMC Chapel

Daily, Mon - Thur, 12:00 a.m., Good Shepherd Chapel

Saturday, 3:30 p.m., Confessions, Good Shepherd

Saturday, 5:00 p.m., Vigil Mass, Good Shepherd

#### Sunday Masses

8:30 a.m., Good Shepherd Chapel

10:00 a.m., Good Shepherd Chapel

11:45 a.m., EAMC Chapel

#### Jewish Activities

Holy Day, Sabbath and Daily

Services available off post

CPT Shoenholz, 791-6109

#### Islamic Services

Jumah (Friday) Prayer Services Oct-Apr, from 12:45-1:30,

and Apr-Oct from 1:15-1:45 - CPO (Ret) Abuwi - 772-4303

#### Denominational Services

LDS Service - Sunday 1:30-4:30 p.m., Friendship Chapel

LDS Representative is Mr. Wright - 364-6297

#### Religious Education

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday school, Religious Ed Ctr

Sunday, 11:30 a.m., Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD)

and Sacramental Preparation, Religious Ed Ctr (Sep-May)

Youth Groups and Other RE Programs, Mr. Dillard - 791-4703

#### Adult Bible Studies

Sunday 9:30 a.m., Protestant Adult Studies, Religious Ed Ctr

Sunday 11:30 a.m., Catholic "God and Coffee", Family Life Ctr

Tuesday 12:00 a.m., EAMC Bible Study, Din Facility, 3rd floor

Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Prot Women of the Chapel, Bicentennial

Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Little Rock Study, Good Shepherd Chapel

Wednesday 9:00 a.m., Prot Women of the Chapel, Bicentennial

Wednesday 11:30 a.m., Post-wide Luncheon, Bicentennial

Wednesday 7:30 p.m., Discipleship Training, Friendship Chapel

Wednesday 7:00 p.m., Faith Gospel Svc at Bicentennial Chapel

Wednesday 7:00 p.m., LDS FHE, Rel Support Ofc, - 364-6297

Wednesday 1200 a.m., 513th at Motor Pool Conf Rm

Wednesday 11:30 a.m., Jewish Study, 1st Wed, Friendship Chapel

Thursday before 1st Friday, 6:30 p.m.,

Military Council of Catholic Women, Good Shepherd Chapel

#### Chapel Directory

Bicentennial Chapel, Bldg 28414, Brainard Ave - 791-2945

Good Shepherd Chapel, Bldg 29608, Barnes Ave - 791-4829

Faith Gospel Service - 791-5166

Friendship Chapel, Bldg 25603, Barnes Ave - 791-2056

EAMC Chapel, Hospital, 3rd floor - 787-6667

Chaplain Family Life Center Bldg 38804, Academic Dr - 791-7421

Religious Education Center, Bldg 39709, 39th St - 791-4703

Religious Support Office, Bldg 29601, Barnes Ave - 791-5653



# New commissary manager military Family oriented

Bonnie Heater

Signal staff

The commissary at Fort Gordon has new leadership. John Sidell, a retired Air Force senior master sergeant, took over Feb. 8. While he was attending a regional sales meeting for commissary officers at MacDill Air Force Base, Fl., he selected Vickie Walker to be the deputy commissary officer for Fort Gordon. She had been the store manager at the Fort McPherson commissary.

“I was so excited about coming here I drove 17 hours straight,” said Sidell. He moved from Fort Hood in Texas to take the job as store director for the post commissary.

Family is important to Sidell. A picture of his mom is displayed in a prominent position near his desk. His father retired from active duty in the Air Force as a master sergeant. His uncle, who served in the U.S. Navy, was among the 1,300 lives lost when the U.S.S. Arizona was bombed during the attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941. That’s why he is so committed to the military Families of Fort Gordon. “I am from a military Family and I want to provide the best service for the Families here,” said Sidell.

He doesn’t see himself as a manager, but a coach. “Every one working in the commissary including our baggers is part of a team,” explained the new store director. “We have some fun planned for our team mates. We want to have a cowboy up day, Hawaiian shirt day, a jersey day, and a nerd day where our staff can bring in their slide rules and pocket protectors. Since we can’t close for an organizational day, we will have a pot luck and get to know each other.”

Another way he and his staff are working to build an effective team is by wearing red on Fridays; this includes the baggers. “We wear red to show our support for the military,” said the store director.

“We’re also selling items at the register for a dollar,” added Sidell. “Doesn’t sound like much, but it gives our cashiers a chance to compete against each other to see who can sell the most. The winner gets a cash award.”

The head coach is in the process of forming an employee council. “I’ve asked for those that are natural leaders in each department to represent their team mates,” explained Sidell. “We’ll form, storm, norm and make this a better place to shop.

“We also have a “Pink Flamingo” award,” he added. “Each month, the department with the largest percent increase in sales gets the trophy, the bragging rights, and the good feeling that the patrons voted for their department with their wallets.”

Shoppers at the Fort Gordon commissary have already seen changes to the commissary since the arrival of Sidell and Walker. There’s a sushi bar. “On Tuesdays there’s a sushi show,” said Sidell. “The sushi master will be doing his work up by register one so folks can watch him. He’s amazing!”

“We have also moved the quick lunch items up to register one, which is one of the express lanes,” added Sidell.

“It makes it easier for our customers to come in at lunch or suppertime and get a fresh



Photo by Bonnie Heater

**John Sidell, the new store director, takes a moment from checking to see if the right cuts of meats are properly labeled in the meat case, to discuss with Vickie Walker, the new deputy commissary officer, about upcoming improvements for the Fort Gordon commissary.**

deli sandwich, a cold drink, chips or a piece of fresh fruit. We also have bananas in the cereal isle. Folks must like it because they’re buying it.

“We have opened up the entrance where we used to store all of the carts,” said the store director. “We now keep a few carts there and display merchandise that’s on sale. We’re doing our best to always have someone in the queuing line to make eye contact with customers and ask how their shopping trip was. If our patrons have a suggestion they can drop it in our suggestion box up front near the exit near register 14 or they can make comments on the Department of Defense Commissary website at: [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com).

Other changes that are planned for the commissary include: a major renovation which will replace all frozen, chill and meat cases in 2008 (year to date); the cash register system will be replaced in its entirety in 2008 and a limited number of self checkout registers will be installed, according to Sidell.

“We’re going to add an “Uncle Sam’s Club,” an area in our warehouse that patrons can shop for family pack items the agency makes available to us to sell to our customers,” said the store director. “Our next big case-lot sale is today and it will run through Sunday. There will be a live band, food, and dancing.”

Currently, the store director is working on getting a contract for “fresh” seafood. “It won’t be in bulk because it would require a \$250,000 renovation,”

explained Sidell. “It will be tray packed.”

He is also assembling a Military Retail Council with the partners at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. “We will have representatives from units on post to provide feedback to us on what we’re doing right and what we can do better.”

Some future and on-going projects the commissary will be involved in according to Sidell include: Special Olympics, military retiree appreciation day, month of the military child, family night out, military spouse day and Christmas House. “On June 12 we are going to have a Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers day,” said Sidell. “About 600 single Soldiers will tour the commissary and we will tell them about their benefits,” said Sidell. “We’re planning to have a hot dog and a pie eating contest. Command Sgt. Maj. (Arthur) Washington says he’s going to barbecue.”

When the store director isn’t brainstorming about improvements to the commissary he enjoys ballroom dancing, karate, judo, playing with his grand children and drawing pen and inks of older structures.

He plans on stay on at Fort Gordon for some time. “This is just an awesome and beautiful area,” explained Sidell.

“I bought a house in Grovetown and I intend to stick around for a long time. The people in the area are friendly; the staff at the commissary is already like a family to me. This is a beautiful post, almost like a college campus. And the support the commissary gets from post units is super.”

COLOR

# Petraeus urges troops to adhere to ethical standards

**Sgt. Sara Wood**  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** – Army Gen. David Petraeus, commander of Multinational Force Iraq, is urging troops in his command to take the “moral high ground” when dealing with insurgents and the Iraqi people.

In response to the results of the latest mental health survey of troops in Iraq, Petraeus sent a letter to the troops yesterday, stressing that the key to securing Iraq is building trust by adhering to values and ethical standards.

“Our values and the laws governing warfare teach us to respect human dignity, maintain our integrity, and do what is right,” Petraeus wrote in the letter, which is posted on the Multinational Force Iraq Web site. “Adherence to our values distinguishes us from our enemy.”

The survey, the fourth iteration of the Mental Health Advisory Team, for the first time

included questions about battlefield ethics in its survey of Soldiers and Marines serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The survey was conducted in August and September, but the findings were released May 4.

The survey found that only 47 percent of Soldiers and 38 percent of Marines agreed that noncombatants should be treated with dignity and respect. More than one-third of all Soldiers and Marines reported that torture should be allowed to save the life of a fellow Soldier or Marine, and less than half of Soldiers or Marines said they would report a team member for unethical behavior.

Also, 10 percent of Soldiers and Marines reported mistreating noncombatants or damaging property when it was not necessary. In the report, mistreating noncombatants was defined as either stealing from a noncombatant, destroying or damaging property when it wasn’t necessary,



Courtesy photo

**Army Gen. David Petraeus, commander of Multinational Force Iraq, stresses following ethical standards.**

or hitting or kicking a noncombatant.

In his letter, Petraeus said he was concerned by the results of the survey, which he said should spur reflection on the conduct of U.S. forces in com-

bat. Petraeus said he fully understands the emotions troops experience in Iraq, especially when fellow servicemembers are killed or injured.

“As hard as it might be, however, we must not let these emotions lead us — or our comrades in arms — to commit hasty, illegal actions,” he wrote. “In the event that we witness or hear of such actions, we must not let our bonds prevent us from speaking up.”

When announcing the survey’s findings at the Pentagon May 4, Army Maj. Gen. Gale Pollock, the service’s acting surgeon general, said that anger is a normal reaction for troops who witness traumatic events in Iraq. However, it’s important to note that the troops who had these thoughts did not act on them and actually mistreat any non-combatants, she said.

Petraeus wrote in the letter that torture is not only il-

legal, but is also ineffective at obtaining information from enemy combatants. The Army field manual on human intelligence collector operations, which was published in 2006, shows that legal techniques work effectively and humanely in eliciting information, he stated.

“We are, indeed, warriors. We train to kill our enemies,” he wrote. “We are engaged in combat, we must pursue the enemy relentlessly, and we must be violent at times. What sets us apart from our enemies in this fight, however, is how we behave. In everything we do, we must observe the standards and values that dictate that we treat noncombatants and detainees with dignity and respect.”

Petraeus also emphasized that stress caused by lengthy deployments, which the survey found is increasingly becoming a problem, is not a sign of weakness. “If you feel such stress, do not hesitate to talk to your chain of command, your chaplain, or a medical expert,” he urged the troops.

The survey results provide an opportunity for U.S. troops to renew their commitment to their values and standards, and demonstrate the need for leaders to set the example and ensure proper conduct, Petraeus said in the letter.

“We should never underestimate the importance of good leadership and the difference it can make,” he wrote.

## Active-duty Army Iraq rotation announced

**Donna Miles**  
*Army News Service*

**WASHINGTON** - Defense Department officials today announced the next 10 Army brigade combat teams to deploy to Iraq to replace units currently operating there.

The announcement affects about 35,000 active-duty troops, who all will deploy between August and the year’s end to serve as replacement forces for those returning home, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman told reporters.

The units will deploy for up to 15 months.

Mr. Whitman emphasized that the announcement is unrelated to the troop surge under way to increase security in and around Baghdad.

“Let me be real clear about this,” he said. “This deployment ... is not a decision with respect to the surge. It is simply identifying the next 10 units that will receive deployment orders and to provide the kind of predictability” they need to prepare.



Photo by Martin Greeson

**Soldiers from the 1st Armored Division practice urban warfare tactics in Friedberg, Germany, April 4. Troops from the division’s 2nd Brigade will be going to Iraq later this year.**

Any decision regarding the surge will be based “entirely upon the conditions on the ground,” Mr. Whitman said.

Army Gen. David Petraeus, commander of Multinational Force Iraq, is expected to assess those conditions later this year and make recommendations regarding the surge to the commander of U.S. Central Command, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, defense secretary and president, Mr. Whitman said.

Major Army units receiving deployment orders include:

- 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas;
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd Brigades, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky.;
- 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, Fort

- Polk, La.;
- 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood;
- 4th Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Ga.;
- 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii;
- 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Stryker), Vilseck, Germany; and
- 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, Baumholder, Germany.

## Court-martial

**Marla Jones**  
*Deputy Public Affairs Officer*

A Soldier who has been in the Army less than six months pled guilty Tuesday to offenses of AWOL, making a false official statement, larceny and unlawful entry.

Pvt. Amanda MacPhail, 369th Signal Battalion, arrived at Fort Gordon Feb. 3 for her advanced individual training and went AWOL for the first time on Feb. 25.

She has already served 60 days of confinement, and will serve for 45 more days’ confinement and then be discharged from the Army with a bad conduct discharge.

MacPhail said she made bad decisions and followed others in committing a series of illegal acts.

She was with other Soldiers who broke into a vending machine and she took some of the money and food. When questioned later by a military police investigator about the break-in, she lied in her sworn statement. She also entered an unoccupied barracks through a window and stayed there while she was AWOL.

“My family was proud of me for joining the Army,” said MacPhail. She said she had to wait for admission to her class at Fort Gordon, and after three weeks she went AWOL. She said now she wants to go home and “start over again” to train for a career as a registered nurse.

Her mother and father testified that MacPhail was an active teenager, participating in band, chorus and cheerleading while in high school.

The sentence is subject to approval by the convening authority and review by the U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals.



# Female Soldier succeeds in male-dominated career field

**Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma**  
*1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs*

**CAMP TAJI, Iraq** – Women have been faced with obstacles throughout history and have fought back. They have swum against the current and stood against stereotypes and double standards to emerge as stronger, inspirational individuals.

Warrant Officer Staceyann McNish, who specializes in mechanics and welding as an allied trades technician with the 1st Cavalry Division’s Company B, 115th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, has defied the norm by being the sole woman in her male-dominated military specialty.

“I have been doing the same job the entire time I have been in the Army, so I never looked at it as a big deal, but I know it’s a major accomplishment,” said Chief McNish, who began her Army career in the enlisted ranks. “When I first signed up for this, I never thought that I would be the only female warrant officer.”

Not one to sit back and delegate, Chief McNish has gone outside the wire to repair leaking water pipes in the surrounding area.

“She doesn’t sit back and point fingers, saying ‘Hey, you do this; you do that.’ She’s actually hands-on,” said Staff Sgt. Erik Babb, a Company A section sergeant. “Seeing someone perform the way she does really picks up the spirits of the troops.”

Although she finds the men in her field supportive, Chief McNish said she does sometimes feel the need to work a little harder than the men - not for them, but for herself.

“The most rewarding work for me is being able to save lives by adding rocket-propelled grenade caging to vehicles or add-

ing sniper netting on Humvees, or repairing a bridge,” she said.

A single mother of 12-year-old Tatyana and 7-year-old Alex, Chief McNish said she lets her kids know there is nothing they cannot accomplish if they put their minds to it.

“I am able to juggle the career and being a mother because I have two wonderful kids and a good support system for them,” Chief McNish

said. She called her children “a beacon of strength” pulling her through the challenges of deployment and military life.

“I think that Chief McNish would do a great job no matter what she chose to do in life. She is very dedicated and goal-oriented,” said Lt. Col. Tyler Osenbaugh, her battalion commander. “The fact that she chose an occupation that few female Soldiers serve in and

became a warrant officer is how she chose to prove that she can do anything.”

Her military achievements give her a feeling of pride, and of hope for those who follow in her footsteps.

“It is great to know that I have opened the door for other women, to know that it is OK to take on the challenge of being in a male-dominated job.”



Photo by Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma

**Warrant Officer Staceyann McNish, an allied trade technician with the 1st Cavalry Division’s Company B, 115th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, repairs a broken water pipe at the Karkh Water Treatment Plant in northern Baghdad May 8. She is assisted by Staff Sgt. Dajanira Burton, the recovery supervisor, and Sgt. James Heintzel, a metal worker.**



## Nurse anesthesia program ranks among nation’s best

**Charmain Z. Brackett**  
*Correspondent*

Not all the national news about the military’s health care system has been bad lately.

In an April issue of U.S. News and World Report Magazine, the magazine ranked the Army’s nurse anesthesia program second place in a list of the top graduate programs in the nation.

“I’m not surprised,” said Maj. Randy Sellars, nurse anesthesia program director at Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center. “The Army was number two in the last ranking in 2003. I think a lot of it stems from the practice model in the Army. We train them to be very independent.”

The Army nurse anesthesia program includes 30 months of training. The first 12 months are spent in San Antonio, Texas. They include intense classroom training. After that, students are transferred to other Army hospitals to focus on clinical training.

“It’s similar to a residency,” he said.

Eisenhower has between three and six nurse anesthesia students per year.

Once they reach Eisenhower, the students “see very little classroom time. It’s all clinical training,” he said.

The Army program received a 4.0 ranking on a 5.0 scale. Virginia Commonwealth University came in first and received a 4.1

“Our score improved. Theirs stayed the same,” said Sellars. “We narrowed the gap.”

Maj. Corey Eichelberger is one of the students in the program.

“I thought about it a long time. I’ve been in the Army and done different things. This is something I wanted, and the Army needed,” he said.

Eichelberger said he knew that the Army’s nurse anesthesia program was well-respected and that helped his decision to pursue training through the Army rather than in the civilian arena.

Sellars said the career field is one that Soldiers can easily transition from the military to Civilian world.

No matter where Sellars chooses to follow his career path, whether in the military or one day among the Civilian ranks, he said he’s glad to have gone through the Army program and selected this field.

“I decided to become a nurse anesthetist in college. The big reason was I never met a nurse anesthetist that was unhappy,” he said.

**Charmain Z. Brackett**  
*Correspondent*

Fort Discovery will be overrun with bugs this summer, but don’t call the exterminator. It’s all part of a new exhibit. The World of Giant Insects exhibit opens on May 26.



Photo courtesy of Fort Discovery

**The 19-foot tall Praying Mantis is one of the larger-than-life sized exhibits opening May 26 at Fort Discovery.**

Victor Morales, Fort Discovery’s exhibit’s designer, knew a little about what to expect from the insect exhibit because he worked with its manufacturer, Kokoro, two years ago with a dinosaur exhibit.

“Because of the dinosaurs from Kokoro, we knew we would have a museum quality exhibit,” he said.

There are 19 different pieces in the exhibit which is divided into several different areas in the Knox Gallery of Fort Discovery.

The larger than scale insects feature lifelike qualities.

“Both the dinosaur and insect exhibits are pneumatic. Both have the rubber foam covering that gives them the look of real skin in case of the dinosaurs and shell in the case of the insects,” Morales said.

Included in the exhibit are a 19-foot tall praying mantis, a 13-foot tall locust, two 11-foot tall rhinoceros beetles fighting each other, a 21-foot long walking stick and a 15-foot long swallow-tail caterpillar that wiggles.

Along with the robotic insects, there are live ones including a live honeybee hive, live butterflies and a live insect zoo.

Honey from the hive will be collected, processed and sold in the science center’s store.

In addition, there will be movies shown at the science center during the exhibit’s run which focus on insects.

On the opening day of the exhibit, Rudy Mancke, who hosts Nature Scene, on South Carolina Educational Television, will be at the center from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. He will provide a walking tour of the exhibit and then go outside the science center to talk about live insects.

Throughout the summer, there will be special programs coinciding with the exhibit.

Fort Discovery is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$6 for children, senior citizens and active duty military.

## Marine spouse reflects on ‘married to military’ lifestyle

**Donna Miles**

*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** – After being “married to the military” for almost two decades, Angela Conboy has experienced her share of ups and downs and absences and reunions. When she stops to add it all up, Conboy figures that her husband, Marine 1st Sgt. Kevin Conboy, has been deployed seven of the 17 years they’ve been married. Out of the last two years alone, he’s been gone 14 months. He returned home to Camp LeJeune, N.C., in March after his most recent deployment, to Anbar province, Iraq. Standing at her husband’s side last night while he received a SemperComm Award for his morale-boosting activities during that deployment, Conboy took time to reflect on the role she and other military spouses play in supporting the military. Like most military spouses, Conboy downplays any insinuation that she’s doing anything more than simply standing behind the man she loves. “They have it a lot harder than we do,” she said of her husband and his fellow troops. “He’s the one getting dirty and not getting showers. I’m the one who’s here living my own normal life.” While her husband is gone, Conboy strives to keep her home life stable for the couple’s 15-year-old son. “I know that’s important, so I try to keep things as nor-



Photo by Donna Miles

**Marine Sgt. Kevin Conboy and his wife Angela Conboy pose for a photograph after Conboy received a SemperComm Award for his morale-boosting activities while on deployment. Angela reflects on the role military spouses play in supporting the military.**

mal as possible for him,” she said. She talks with her husband as frequently as possible, filling him in on what’s happening at home and reassuring him that all is well. She admits to putting on a happy face so he doesn’t have to wonder how the Family is doing without him. “You just have to be positive,” he said. “I focus on supporting him and trying to be strong and not letting him know that we’re worrying about him.” But in truth, Conboy said, she spends his deployments “hoping and praying” her husband and his comrades are safe, never giving up the vigil until they return. Only then, when she knows they’re home, can she let that guard down. “The best feeling in the world is seeing that bus come around the corner (from the airfield) and them coming home,” she said. Conboy may pooh-pooh her and other military spouses’ contribution to the military, but military and defense officials say they understand it clearly. President Bush issued a proclamation May 11 commemorating the day as Military Spouse Appreciation Day to honor military spouses who “inspire our nation with their sense of duty and deep devotion to our country.” The president recognized the sacrifices spouses and Family members make every day to support the force. Marine Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, issued a message May 11 praising spouses for the “quiet strength and untold support” they provide. “Through long deployments, you sustain our morale with your letters, e-mails and

the comforting knowledge that your thoughts and prayers are always with us,” he said. “While we’re away, you maintain a sense of stability for our Families, providing a constant foundation despite daily challenges and unspoken worries. When we get tired, you dust us off, and put us back into the fight.” Pace recognized that spouses are slow to accept recognition for what they do. “When we come home and receive recognition, you stand in the background and pretend you had nothing to do with that success,” he said. Navy Secretary Donald Winter noted that although it’s the Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine who signs up for military duty, it’s often that person’s wife or husband who will be the key to how successful that service will be. “The support of our military spouses is critical to our service members,” he said. Winter said it’s fitting that the first Friday in May be set aside to formally recognize the contribution military spouses make. Even more impressive, he said, is the fact that President Bush is honoring military spouses personally at the White House today. “That speaks volumes,” Winter said. Troops, too, say they recognize the important role their spouses play, particularly while they’re deployed. “When you know you have their support, you can have the right head on your shoulders and concentrate on your mission,” said Marine Staff Sgt. Christopher Wright, a reservist who recently returned from a deployment near Ramadi, Iraq. “It gives you focus.”



# Community Events

## Army Show coming

U.S. Army Soldier Show public performances will be **June 9** and **10** in Alexander Hall, on Chamberlain Ave.

The Soldier Show is a song and dance revue performed by active duty Army personnel from all over the world.

The shows at 8 p.m. June 9 and 6 p.m. June 10 are open to the public and admission is free. Seating is limited, so early arrival is recommended.

For entrance to Fort Gordon, all persons 16 years or older must show a photo identification. All drivers must have current drivers license, proof of insurance and state license registration.

For information about this year's show, go to <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/entertainment/armysoldiershow/news.asp>.

## Grovetown festival

The 5th annual Grovetown Heritage Festival will be held 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. **May 28** in the town center.

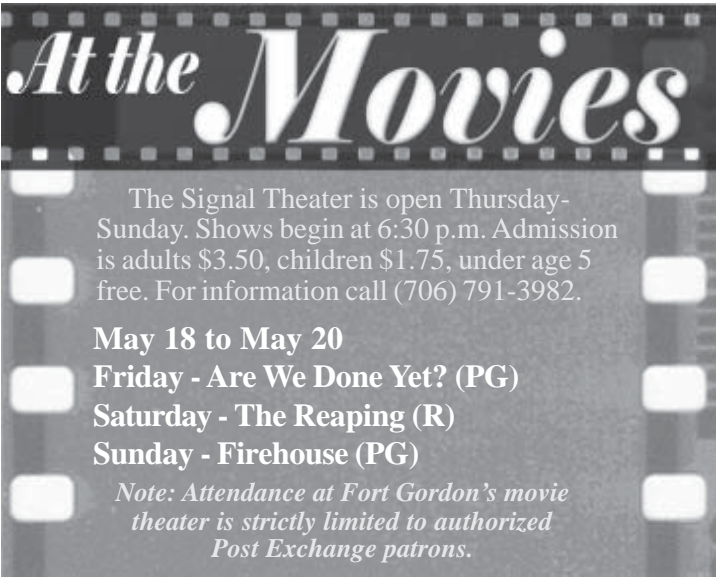
A dedication ceremony for the Veterans Memorial will take place at 1 p.m. with Brig. Gen. Randolph Strong, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commander as the guest speaker.

Festival events will feature activities for kids, face painting, photos, vendors, music and antique cars.

For more information, call (706)863-1867.

## Latino Job Fair

A Latino job fair will be held from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., **Wednesday** at Julian Smith Casino. At 2:30 p.m. a roundtable discussion will be



held for non-profit organizations serving Latinos. Rep. Jerry Gonzalez, founder of the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials will be present.

For more information call Nancy Schear at (706) 860-1066.

## Epilepsy symposium

A community educational symposium on epilepsy will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.. **June 2** at Jabez Sanford Hardin Performing Arts Center, 720 N. Belair Rd., Evans (inside the Columbia County Library).

The MCG Comprehensive Epilepsy Program offers an educational symposia for children and adults with epilepsy, their families and loved ones, and caregivers (including nurses, teachers, day care providers and more). Topics include epilepsy and its treatments, plus information on living with epilepsy.

For more information or to register for this free event, call Pam Culberson-Brown at (706) 721-3371.

## Scholarship application

Augusta-Fort Gordon Chapter, AFCEA, is taking applications from high school and college students majoring in engineering and science, or computer science for scholarships to be awarded in June.

Students may go online for the application form at [www.afcea-augusta.org/scholarships.htm](http://www.afcea-augusta.org/scholarships.htm). Applications must be mailed by May 30.

Students who are pursuing degrees in engineering, math, physics, science, computer science or related fields are eligible. The scholarships are for \$500 each. For information, contact Kim Burr at (706) 631-4114.

## Red Cross teen jobs

The American Red Cross Station Eisenhower AMC, is accepting applications for the Summer Teen Volunteer Program.

Teens must be 14 years old. Packets may be obtained in the Red Cross office, Room 3-D-09 at

Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center.

Placements are made on a first come first served basis.

Call (706) 787-6311 for information.

## 4-H Club supports troops

The Middle Schoolers' and Teens' 4-H Club at Fort Gordon is collecting toiletries and non-perishable food items for Soldiers. The project is called "Help Support Our Troops."

The collection box is located at the Youth Services Center on post.

For more information, call (706) 791-5104.

## YCA needs tutors

The Fort Gordon Youth Challenge Academy needs caring adults to tutor high school level cadets in math, science, social studies, reading/literature, and writing in preparation for the GED Test.

Tutoring is normally Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8 p.m. on the YCA campus, but our need is so great that we can accommodate almost any schedule. Active duty Soldiers on swing or other shifts are encouraged to participate.

Helping at-risk teens is tremendously gratifying and it truly makes a difference in their lives. Tutors do not need to have a college degree, just a willingness to help and a basic understanding of the subject matter.

Please call (706) 791-5997 or (706) 951-6337 for further information and to sign up.

# Fort Gordon supporting several Memorial Day events

Several Memorial Day observances are scheduled in the Central Savannah River Area and surrounding communities. They are all free and open to the public. Following is a list of those that Fort Gordon is supporting.

### May 24, 6 p.m.

The Signal Corps Band will perform at Putnam County's 7th annual "Celebrate Patriotism" Memorial Day program. The program will be held at The Plaza, 200 Madison Ave., Eatonton. In case of inclement weather, it will be held at the Putnam County High School gymnasium, 140 Sparta Highway, Eatonton.

### May 26, 1 p.m.

The annual Aiken Memorial Day Parade will be held on Laurens Street, in downtown, Aiken, SC. It will include over 150 entries, including the Signal Corps Band, the joint service color guard and several military marching units. Wounded service members will also ride on a special float donated by the Aiken Marine Corps League.

### May 26, 6:30 p.m.

The focus of this year's Columbia County's Red, White and Blue Memorial Day Celebration will be the memory of Congressman Charlie Norwood. The event will be held at the Justice Center, Ronald Reagan Boulevard, Evans. The guest speaker will be Brig. Gen. Randolph Strong, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commander. The U.S. Army Signal Corps Band and

Army, Navy and Marine marching units will also participate.

### May 27, 8 a.m.

The Signal Corps Band's Brass Ensemble will perform at Louisville's Memorial Day Sunrise Service, which will be held at the Jefferson County Courthouse, Broad Street in Louisville.

### May 28, 9 a.m.

The Georgia War Veterans' Nursing Home's Memorial Day Observance will be held in the courtyard located at 1101 Fifteenth Street, Augusta. The guest speaker will be Lt. Col. Nello Thomas, 15th Regimental Signal Brigade deputy commander. Also participating will be the Signal Corps Band, color guard and firing squad.

### May 28, 10 a.m.

Chaplain (Cpt.) Yeoun Ferris of the 63rd Signal Battalion will deliver the invocation at Bellevue Memorial Gardens' Memorial Day observance. The gardens are located at 4501 Wrightsboro Road, Grovetown.

### May 28, 10:30 a.m.

The Vietnam Veterans of America Salkehatchie Chapter 828's Memorial Day service will include a brick dedication for all the people in Barnwell County, South Carolina and surrounding counties who died in the last few years due to hostile fire in Iraq. The event will be held at the Veteran's Park in downtown Barnwell. The Regimental Noncommissioned Officer Academy will provide a color guard for the event.

### May 28, 11 a.m.

The Augusta/CSRA Area Veterans Activities Memorial Day ceremony will be held at the Veterans of All Wars Monument, corner of 4th and Broad Streets, Augusta. The guest speaker will be Col. Frank Penha, 15th Regimental Signal Brigade commander. Other support includes a firing squad, bugler and representatives from each branch of service to raise the branch flags.

### May 28, 11 a.m.

The American Legion Post 120's Memorial Day observance will be held at the courthouse square on Highway 25 in downtown Waynesboro. The guest speaker will be Chief Warrant Officer Andrew Barr, Regimental Signal Warrant Officer.

### May 28, 11 a.m.

American Legion Post 71's Memorial Day observance will be held at Wade Hampton Veterans Park on the 300 block of Georgia Avenue, North Augusta. Command Sgt. Maj. John Murray, Regimental Noncommissioned Officer Academy commandant, will be the guest speaker.

### May 28, 1 p.m.

Grovetown's Memorial Day observance will include the dedication of their Veterans Wall. The wall and bricks will contain the names of Columbia County citizens who served in the Armed Forces from the Civil War to the present conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The event will be

held at Grovetown City Hall, 103 Wrightsboro Road, Grovetown. The guest speaker will be Brig. Gen. Randolph Strong. The U.S. Army Signal Corps Band, joint service color guard and personnel dressed in historical uniforms will also participate in the event.

### May 28, 7:30 p.m.

Fort Gordon's color guard will support Brandon Wilde's Memorial Day observance which will be held at 4275 Owens Road, Evans.



# Sports

## Sports

### UPDATE

#### Special Needs T-Ball

T-Ball for kids with special needs ages 4 to 18 years old will meet in Martinez starting in late May. This volunteer-based program is open to children in the CSRA, including South Carolina. Neurotypical friends and siblings are also welcomed to join. We are in need of dedicated coaching volunteers and assistants as well.

For more information e-mail Trever Anderson at [izziaart@yahoo.com](mailto:izziaart@yahoo.com) or call (706) 210-9295 to enroll. Enrollment is limited, so apply early.

#### 10K Run

SCRA Spring Challenge 10K Run is being held **June 2** starting at 8 a.m. on 25th Street at the Noncommissioned Officers Academy.

Sign in for registered competitors will be from 6:30 a.m.-7:30 a.m. Team cost (5 or more) is \$50 with T-shirts available for \$7 each. Individual cost includes a T-shirt and is \$20 before June 1 and \$25 the day of the race.

Register at [www.signalcorps.org/scra\\_run\\_2jun1.htm](http://www.signalcorps.org/scra_run_2jun1.htm).

#### Outdoors getaway

Take the Family on a not so rough camp-out to enjoy simple pleasure and simple fun at Pointes West Army recreation area at Lake Thurmond. Cabins are available for \$75 or campers for \$45.

Call (706) 541-1057 for reservations.

#### Gordon Lakes Golf courses

Enjoy 27 holes on the highly rated and exquisitely designed Robert Trent Jones, Sr. Gordon Lakes Golf courses. The courses are open daily to the public with easy access during non peak hours 8 a.m. to 4:30p.m., and peak hours 6:30a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Call (706) 791-2433 to reserve a tee time or for general information.

#### Paintball course

The paintball course located behind The Courtyard recreation and dining center has new hours. The course is open 10 a.m. on **Saturdays** and 1 p.m. **Sundays**, each day until dark.

Call (706) 228-5540 for more information.

#### Bowling

The Gordon Lanes are located on 3rd Avenue in Building 33200 and offer birthday parties, group instruction, leagues and tournaments, and a complete Pro shop.

For more information call (706) 791-3446.

#### PT road runs

Lane Avenue is closed to all vehicular traffic from 31st Street to 15th Street, Monday - Friday, 5:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m., to allow for unit and individual "on-road" PT runs. The only areas approved for runs from 5:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m., are the 1/3 or 1/4 mile tracks on Barton Field, Chamberlain Avenue, McNair Terrace entrance, and Brems Barracks 1/3 mile track; Barton Field itself, and the Lane Avenue route.

## Ball club honors military service

Gerry Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** – The Washington Nationals baseball team saluted the U.S. military during an evening pre-game program May 11 that featured fireworks, a group enlistment and servicemembers tossing ceremonial pitches.

Military Appreciation Night activities held at Robert F. Kennedy Stadium here also included Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon R. England, who met with Army, Marine, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard members in attendance. Afterward, England and his military and Civilian staff took in the game between the Nationals and the Florida Marlins.

"This is wonderful. I was just talking to all the new recruits, asking them what they're going to do in the military," England said during the pre-game ceremonies. "I told them this is a great, great time to be joining the military.

"First, it's a great career

and it's a great opportunity to serve their country at the same time," England said.

Twelve recruits — three Air Force, five Navy and four Army — took oaths of enlistment in a ceremony presided over by Air Force Surgeon General Lt. Gen. James G. Roudebush.

"They've made a commitment to serve our nation, something much bigger than themselves or any of us," Roudebush said of the new servicemembers. "I think it's a tribute to these young men and women that the Washington Nationals and Major League Baseball would make this opportunity possible."

Additionally, Major League Baseball teams often send players to visit with deployed servicemembers overseas, the general pointed out.

Roudebush was accompanied to the ballpark by Air Force Maj. Gen. Robert L. Smolen, the commander of the Air Force District of Washington. Smolen echoed Roudebush's sentiments.

"America's national pastime

is baseball, and so to have these recruits out here during a national sporting event like this gives Americans a chance to see some of their finest young people, their sons and daughters, going out to defend freedom," Smolen said.

New Air Force member Stefon Brown, 20, said he wasn't worried that America is at war with global terrorism.

"I believe that fighting for my country is right," said Brown, who hails from Washington, D.C.

Jessica Lee, 18, an Army recruit from Waldorf, Md., said she joined the military because she wants to help to safeguard America's way of life.



Photos by Gerry Gilmore

**Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon R. England shakes the hand of new Navy recruit Joseph Cain, an 18-year-old from Temple Hills, Md., during pre-game Military Appreciation Night activities at Robert F. Kennedy Stadium in Washington, D.C., May 11.**

"I joined because I strongly believe in freedom and I don't believe that you should leave (defending) it up to everyone else," Lee said.

After the enlistment ceremony, military "old-hands" Army Sgt. 1st Class David Nimmers, Marine Sgt. Landon Fielder, Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class David Pino, Air Force Airman 1st Class Randy Lopez, and Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Jonathan Edwards each threw one ceremonial pitch.

"It's pretty amazing. I'd never dreamed I'd get a chance to do this," Fielder, a 23-year-old Marine stationed at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., said as he waited his turn at the pitcher's mound.

One of the Nationals' founding partners, Alphonso Maldon, a retired Army officer and a former assistant secretary of defense for force management policy, also was on hand to greet the servicemembers.

The Nationals' salute to the military "is absolutely one of the best things that we do," Maldon said, noting America's servicemembers are deployed to places like Afghanistan and Iraq to defend freedom.

"This is the least we can do for our men and women, to show our appreciation for the service that they're rendering for this great country of ours," Maldon said. The pre-game ceremony may have inspired the Nationals, who beat the Marlins 6-0 later that evening. Washington had endured an eight-game losing streak before the win.

The Nationals are among the more than 250 businesses and organizations nationwide that participate in the Defense Department's America Supports You program, which recognizes citizens' support for military men and women and communicates that support to members of the U.S. armed forces here and abroad.

During the pre-game activities, the Nationals displayed an American Supports You advertisement on one of the stadium's massive public viewing screens.

England has participated in a number of America Supports You-hosted events.

"This is a wonderful program across the country for our military, but also for our citizens," the deputy defense secretary said. "It gives them an opportunity to support our military every day and to be able to come forward and say 'Thank You' for their great service to our country."



**Twelve recruits, three Air Force, five Navy and four Army, take oaths of enlistment at a ceremony presided over by Air Force Surgeon General Lt. Gen. James Roudebush during pre-game Military Appreciation Night activities at Robert F. Kennedy Stadium in Washington, D.C., May 11.**

## Mark Martin finishes 14th at Darlington

U.S. Army Racing

Army News Service

**DARLINGTON, S.C.** - Mark Martin and the 01 U.S. Army team battled Darlington Raceway's 1.366-mile oval with the Car of Tomorrow to land a respectable 14th-place finish in Sunday's rain-delayed Nextel Cup event.

"This was a really tough race," said Martin. "Though we fought the COT all weekend, I am really proud of the U.S. Army team's effort for never giving up. We kept working on the car and the over-the-wall guys had some great pit stops under pressure. Like our Soldiers, we never quit. We take great pride in wearing the Army uniform."

Despite missing three races as part of his limited Ginn Racing schedule, Martin is 15th in driver points while the 01 Army team is ranked sixth in owner points.

Following a sub par performance in Friday's final practice session, the team, headed by crew chief Ryan Pemberton, changed the setup on the car. The changes obviously worked as Martin wasted little time moving through the field in Sunday's race.

Starting 37th, the veteran driver powered his No. 01 U.S. Army Chevy Impala SS into the top 30 by Lap 33 of 367. He broke inside the top 25 on Lap 48 and passed former teammate Matt Kenseth on Lap 80 for the 20th position. Martin moved all the way to 15th by Lap 96 and remained inside the top 15 for the majority of the race from that point on.

The No. 01 U.S. Army pit crew was stellar all day, advancing Martin five positions and into the top 10 with a 12.3-second stop on Lap 259. However the handling on the No. 01 Chevy Impala seemed to go away on the ensuing run and Martin was unable to keep the car inside the top 10.

Martin stayed out after the races' ninth caution and restarted in fifth position on Lap 249. Unfortunately the car was unable to run with the leaders and Martin settled back into the field as the laps wound down. He was able to hang on to a top-15 finishing position.

The Army team will take a week off from point racing when they compete in Saturday night's Nextel All-Star Challenge at Lowe's Motor Speedway near Charlotte, before returning to Lowe's

the following week for the famed Coca-Cola 600, an event Martin won in 2002.

The next two weeks will also be a break from the COT, with teams running traditional cars at the two Lowe's Motor Speedway events.

"I'm really looking forward to Charlotte," said Martin. "I love that race track and we had a great car there at the test last week. It's going to be a nice break from the COT."

## Big fish prize

Bonnie Heater

Signal staff

Seven fishermen showed up with their fishing rods and lures for the Bass Tournament held May 5 at Fort Gordon's Butler Reservoir. The inclement weather was largely to blame for the low turnout, according to Fred Perry, the Outdoor Recreation Manager for the post.

The team of Bob Palagyi and Jewel Jessie placed first in the tournament with a total catch of 7 pounds, 5 ounces. They earned the \$100 prize. Paul McCrary earned the Big Fish Pot prize with a Largemouth Bass weighing 2 pounds, 13 ounces.



# SPECIALTY SPORTS CAMPS

**Monday – Thursday**  
**Building 45410**  
**Grades 1 – 5:**  
**9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**  
**Grades 6 – 12:**  
**1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**  
**Cost: \$25.00 per week**

Open to family members of Active Duty Personnel, Active Duty Reservists and National Guard Personnel, Civilian Employees of Fort Gordon, Department of Defense Contractors and Military Retirees are eligible. Youth must be registered with Child and Youth Services.

<b>JUNE 4-7...Basketball Camp</b> (register by May 25)	<b>JULY 9-12...Fishing Camp</b> (register by Jun. 29)
<b>JUNE 11-14...Football Camp</b> (register by Jun. 1)	<b>JULY 16-19...Bowling Camp</b> (register by Jul. 6)
<b>JUNE 18-21...Baseball Camp</b> (register by Jun. 8)	<b>JULY 23-26...Basketball Camp</b> (register by Jul. 13)
<b>JUNE 25-28...Soccer Camp</b> (register by Jun. 15)	<b>JULY 30 - AUGUST 2...Football Camp</b> (register by Jul. 20)
<b>JULY 2-5...Golf Camp</b> (register by Jun. 22)	<b>AUGUST 6-9...Baseball Camp</b> (register by Jul. 27)

Register at Central Registration, Lane Avenue, Bldg. 28320  
Registration Info: 706-791-4722  
Program Info: 706-831-5845  
Fort Gordon, GA

[www.fortgordon.com](http://www.fortgordon.com)



## Military displays varied equipment

**John Kruzel**  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** – Army Staff Sgt. Faith Pemberton said yesterday that seeing the U.S. Army’s Virtual Experience combat simulator gave her the “heebie-jeebies.”

“When I saw it for the first time it gave me the chills, because there are very close similarities to some real situations,” said Pemberton, who deployed to Tikrit, Iraq, in 2003.

The warfare simulator, housed beneath a 5,000-square-foot inflated dome, was one of about 200 civilian

and military exhibits set up on the National Mall here for Public Service Recognition Week, May 7 to 13. Attracting about 30,000 visitors per day, the 27th annual recognition week honors the men and women who serve America as federal, state and local government employees.

“Every day we take for granted what government does for us, whether it’s keeping our air safe and clean, to keeping our food safe to providing citizenship services, to defending our borders,” said Carl Fillichio, vice president of the Council for Excellence in Government and the event’s organizer.

“Now and then, I think it’s important to remind the general public, and remind each other what our government does,” he said. “What I really like about our military displays is it kind of adds that dimension into young people’s public consciousness so that the military could conceivably be a career for them.”

In the shadow of the U.S. Capitol, U.S. military exhibitors and defense contractors displayed security and defense equipment currently used in the field, including a Marine AH-64 Apache helicopter and LAV-25 Light-Ar-

mored Vehicle, and innovations that could aid servicemembers in future missions.

A former sailor in the Swedish navy, Nicholas Tchang, of Stockholm, visited the exhibits during his trip from New York to Los Angeles. “My feeling is that these are cool machines, and it’s interesting to walk around here and see this military equipment,” he said.

“This is a very beautiful design,” he added, looking at the Hydra 70 missiles mounted symmetrically on the Apache helicopter’s sides.

An interactive display invited

visitors to try their hand at disposing of dummy explosives using the 500-series iRobot — a durable, lightweight remote-controlled vehicle now used in Iraq in Afghanistan by explosive ordnance disposal teams in all service branches.

“With the iRobot, the individual doesn’t have to go down there and personally put his hands on (the ordnance),” said Ray Howard, a sales support specialist at iRobot who retired recently after 22 years as an Army EOD team member. “They can send a disposable robotic platform to go down, and if it gets destroyed then we’ll get them another one.” Howard said

about the \$118,000 device. “It’s better than losing a human life.”

An iRobot rolled across the lawn as 8-year-old Roman Franzia maneuvered it toward a simulated bomb. “I thought it was really fun to keep on trying to pick up the bomb and finally get it,” Roman said.

Watching his nephew successfully scoop the mock explosive with the iRobot’s metal grippers was Michael Franzia, a member of the California Wine Institute, who traveled here for Washington Wine Week. “Roman’s father was in the Army Reserve, and I think he wants to carry on the heritage,” Franzia said.



*Photos by Petty Officer 2nd Class Molly Burgess*

Young visitors interact with an iRobot while Ray Howard, (*far right*) operates the device using a remote control similar to that of a video game joystick during National Public Service Recognition Week, May 10, 2007, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.



Army Spc. Christopher McComb, (*right*) rigs a parachute on an exhibit participant in a Public Service Recognition Week display on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., on May 10, 2007.



Derek Metcalf, a participant in the U.S. Marine Corps National Public Service Recognition Week exhibit on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., simulates firing a machine gun with his grandson May 10, 2007.



Participants take an interactive tour inside the Virtual Army Experience exhibit on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., May 10, 2007, as part of National Public Service Recognition Week.



Marine Sgt. Mathew Litton, right, watches as a participant in the National Public Service Recognition Week exhibit on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., looks into the Command Launch Unit attached to an anti-tank missile launcher on May 10, 2007.